

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-55. (Canceled)

56. (New) A system for capturing medical information, said system comprising:
a database having pre-programmed screen presentations, each presentation containing information pertinent to a particular medical complaint, certain of said presentations having at least an HPI portion, and an ROS portion for a particular medical complaint; and
a screen presentation for allowing a user to identify a particular medical complaint; and
wherein said system is operable for presenting to said user an ordered set of screen presentations, each said screen presentation of said ordered set of screen presentations containing multiple selectable information elements pertinent to an identified particular medical condition.

57. (New) The system of claim 56 further comprising:
means for capturing medical information on a selected screen presentation by incorporating a state indicator on a plurality of pre-presented clinical items.

58. (New) The system of claim 56 further comprising
means for capturing additional medical information associated with said plurality of pre-presented clinical items based upon an action taken by a user with respect to said pre-presented item.

59. (New) The system of claim 58 further comprising
means for cueing the user that said additional medical information is available for selection, said cueing means associated with said pre-presented clinical item.

60. (New) The system of claim 56 wherein certain of said presentations comprise a portion having a pre-identified graphic of an anatomical area pertinent to said chief medical complaint.

61. (New) The system of claim 60 wherein said graphic comprises one or more labels overlaid on said anatomical area, wherein said one or more labels are selectable information elements pertinent to an identified particular medical condition.

62. (New) The system of claim 56 wherein said ordered set of screen presentations comprises:

a plurality of different presentations pertaining to a single respective medical complaint, wherein said different presentations are selected from the list of: history, exam, course, Dx/DI.

63. (New) The system of claim 62 wherein said exam presentations contain listings of pre-presented clinical items representing possible clinical exam findings pertinent to said particular medical complaint.

64. (New) The system of claim 62 wherein said course presentations contain listings of pre-presented clinical items representing possible clinical findings pertinent to said particular medical complaint.

65. (New) The system of claim 64 wherein said possible clinical findings within said course presentations are selected from: x-ray, laboratory, EKG, diagnostic procedure, procedure descriptions, therapeutic interventions, consultations, repeat examinations, admission notes.

66. (New) The system of claim 62 wherein said Dx/DI presentations comprises listings of pre-presented clinical items representing possible, clinical impression findings, prescriptions, work excuse, discharge instructions, follow-up referrals, pertinent to said particular medical complaint.

67. (New) The system of claim 66 further comprising means for generating a patient prescription based upon selections made within said Dx/DI presentation.

68. (New) The system of claim 66 further comprising means for generating discharge instructions based upon selections made within said Dx/DI presentation.

69. (New) The system of claim 66 further comprising means for generating work excuse instructions based upon selections made within said Dx/DI presentation.

70. (New) A method for assisting physicians during evaluation and treatment of patients, said method comprising:
identifying to a computer controlled system a chief medical complaint of a patient;
said system selecting a template based upon said identified chief medical complaint, said template having multiple screen presentations, a plurality of said template presentations having pre-identified selectable data elements pertaining to said chief medical complaint; and
capturing medical history information pertaining to said patient on a first screen presentation of said selected template.

71. (New) The method of claim 70 further comprising:
capturing physical exam information pertaining to said patient on a second screen presentation of said selected template.

72. (New) The method of claim 71 further comprising:
capturing medical information pertaining to a course of treatment of said patient on a third screen presentation of said selected template.

73. (New) The method of claim 72 further comprising:
capturing medical information pertaining to the diagnosis and disposition of said patient on a fourth screen presentation of said selected template.

74. (New) The method of claim 73 further comprising:
selecting one or more said pre-identified selectable data elements by marking said element with a state indicator.

75. (New) The method of claim 73 further comprising:
adding additional medical information in a space adjacent to one or more of said pre-identified selectable data elements.

76. (New) The method of claim 75 further comprising:
selecting said additional medical information from a sub-set of pre-identified selectable data elements.

77. (New) The method of claim 70 further comprising:
said system generating a medical report in a textual prose representation based on information correlated from captured information with respect to said template.

78. (New) A machine controlled method for assisting physicians during evaluation and treatment of patients, said method comprising:

machine selection of a template based upon identification to said machine of a patient's chief medical complaint, said template having multiple screen presentations, a plurality of said presentations having pre-identified selectable data elements pertaining to said chief medical complaint; and

capturing by said machine a user's selection of said pre-identified selectable data elements, medical history information pertaining to said patient on a first selected screen presentation of said selected template, said first selected screen comprising a portion having a pre-identified graphic of an anatomical area pertinent to said chief medical complaint.

79. (New) The method of claim 78 wherein said graphic comprises one or more labels overlaid on said anatomical area, wherein said one or more labels are pre-identified selectable data elements.

80. (New) The method of claim 78 further comprising:
capturing in a computing system, by selecting said pre-identified selectable data elements, medical exam information pertaining to said patient on a second selected screen presentation of said selected template.

81. (New) The method of claim 78 further comprising capturing in a computing system, by selecting said pre-identified selectable data elements, medical course information pertaining to said patient on a third selected screen presentation of said selected template.

82. (New) The method of claim 78 further comprising capturing in a computing system, by selecting said pre-identified selectable data elements, DxDI information pertaining to said patient on a fourth selected screen presentation of said selected template.

83. (New) The method of claim 78 wherein said pre-identified selectable data elements pertaining to said chief medical complaint are selected by inserting an affirmative or negative indication on one or more said data elements.

84. (New) The method of claim 78 further comprising automatically generating a clinical report based upon a correlated compilation of selected ones of said data elements.

85. (New) The method of claim 84 further comprising including in said clinical report, additional data associated with said pre-identified selectable data elements, said additional data selected from a sub-set of pre-identified selectable data elements.

86. (New) A system for capturing medical information, said system comprising: a database having pre-programmed screen presentations, a plurality of said presentations having pre-identified selectable data elements pertaining to said chief medical complaint, and said system programmed to generate a textual prose representation correlating information corresponding to selections of said pre-identified data elements.

87. (New) The system of claim 86 wherein said pre-identified selectable data elements comprise a graphical state indicator configured to be disposed on said pre-identified selectable data elements.

88. (New) The system of claim 86 wherein said pre-identified selectable data elements comprises an additional data portion configured to be populated by selections from a sub-set of pre-identified selectable data elements.